

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the second paragraphs of page 16 with the following two paragraphs:

In the case of a cable modem subscriber as shown in figure 6, the user connects into the system via a set-top box 37. The set-top box makes the DHCP request to the DHCP server which looks in the Directory to see if MAC addresses have been assigned to a provisioned user 38. If the MAC address/serial ID of the user is identified 3, the DHCP server returns the IP address and name of the TFTP file containing set-top box configuration settings to the set-top box 40, which retrieves ~~41~~ them from the TFTP server 41. The set-top box then configures itself using the TFTP file to provide the user with the level of service that they requested using the user profile 42. If the Mac address/serial ID is not identified, a provisional IP is assigned to the set-top box cable modem and the user is presented with a registration screen 43. The user can then enter their registration details 44 ~~46~~ and if these are valid, user details are stored in the Directory and a set top MAC address/serial number is associated with the user 45. The user can then use the allocated MAC address/serial ID to log onto the system when they restart the set-top box. If the registration details 46 are not found to be valid a log on failure will be registered.